



**THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicant(s):** Nirmal Muyle

**Examiner:** Nissa M. Westerberg

**Serial No.:** 10/800,984

**Art Unit:** 1609

**Filed:** March 15, 2004

**Docket:** 14276

**For:** A PROCESS FOR PREPARING  
SUSTAINED RELEASE TABLETS

**Dated:** December 10, 2007

**Confirmation No:** 2376

Mailstop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated August 9, 2007, and in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.111 and 1.143, applicant provisionally elects, with traverse, the subject matter of Group III, i.e., Claims 38-48, 53-56 and 59-62, for continued prosecution herein. Further, pursuant to the species election, applicant elects, with traverse, microcrystalline cellulose, as the cellulose species, the combination of hydroxypropylmethylcellulose and xanthan gum as the sustained release carrier, and metformin as the drug.

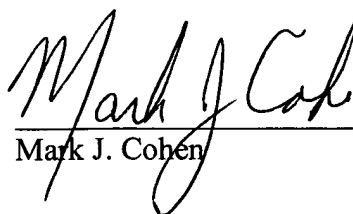
The Amendment to the Claims begin on page 2 and the Remarks begin on Page 10 of this Response.

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop: Amendment Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 10, 2007.

Dated: December 10, 2007

  
Mark J. Cohen